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Attorney Docket No. 1405.1053

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Masaaki NORO, et al.

Application No.: 09/993,498

Group Art Unit: 2157

Confirmation No.: 8168

Filed: November 27, 2001

Examiner: Uzma ALAM

For: COMMUNICATIONS CONTROL METHOD, RELAYING METHOD AND RELAYING  
DEVICE

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:


This is responsive to the Office Action mailed August 11, 2005, having a shortened period for response set to expire on September 11, 2005. Applicants elect claims directed to the invention of Group III, which includes claims 19-23, drawn to "controlling communication between two terminals. Applicants reserve the right to further prosecute without prejudice the non-elected claims 1-11 and 12-18 and the related inventions.

If there are any additional fees associated with this Response, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: September 2, 2005

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